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Customer No.: 

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No: 3552/OK414

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Sunao TAKATORI and Hisanori KIYOMATSU

Serial No: TO BE ASSIGNED (National Phase of International Patent Application
Serial No. PCT/JP01/06299, filed July 19, 2001)

Filed: CONCURRENTLY

For: AUTHENTICATION MANAGEMENT APPARATUS AND STORE
COMMUNICATION TERMINAL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 6-10, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121 as follows (see the accompanying "marked up" version pursuant to §1.121), and add new Claims 11-23:

6. (Amended) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 4, wherein the transmission means transmits the information to a customer communication terminal as well as to the authentication management apparatus.
7. (Amended) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 4, wherein the store communication terminal is a mobile communication terminal.
8. (Amended) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 4, wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a pawnshop.
9. (Amended) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 4, wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a lottery money-exchanging booth.
10. (Amended) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 4, wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a prize-exchanging booth of a pachinko parlor.
11. (New) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 5, wherein the transmission means transmits the information to a customer communication terminal as well as to the authentication management apparatus.

12. (New) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 5,
wherein the store communication terminal is a mobile communication terminal.

13. (New) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 5,
wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a pawnshop.

14. (New) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 5,
wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a lottery money-exchanging booth.

15. (New) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 5,
wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a prize-exchanging booth of a pachinko parlor.

16. (New) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 6,
wherein the store communication terminal is a mobile communication terminal.

17. (New) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 6,
wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a pawnshop.

18. (New) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 6,
wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a lottery money-exchanging booth.

19. (New) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 6,
wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a prize-exchanging booth of a pachinko parlor.

20. (New) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 11, wherein the store communication terminal is a mobile communication terminal.

21. (New) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 11, wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a pawnshop.

22. (New) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 11, wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a lottery money-exchanging booth.

23. (New) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 11, wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a prize-exchanging booth of a pachinko parlor.

Remarks:

Claims 6-10 have been amended to change their format from multiple dependent claims to singularly dependent claims. Claim 11 has been added to include the dependency on Claim 5, from the originally-filed Claim 6. Claims 12-15 have been added to include the dependency on Claim 5, from originally-filed Claims 7-10, respectively. Claims 16-19 have been added to include the dependency on Claim 6, from originally-filed Claims 7-10, respectively. Claims 20-23 have been added to include the dependency on Claim 11, from originally-filed Claims 7-10, respectively. No new matter has been added as a result of this amendment.

These amendments are made to save PTO filing fees and not for matters affecting patentability of the claims. The amendments actually broaden the amended claims.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT (MARKED UP COPY)

In the Claims:

6. (Amended) A store communication terminal in accordance with Claim 4 [or Claim 5],

wherein the transmission means transmits the information to a customer communication terminal as well as to the authentication management apparatus.

7. (Amended) A store communication terminal in accordance with [any of] Claim 4 [to Claim 6],

wherein the store communication terminal is a mobile communication terminal.

8. (Amended) A store communication terminal in accordance with [any of] Claim 4 [to Claim 6],

wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a pawnshop.

9. (Amended) A store communication terminal in accordance with [any of] Claim 4 [to Claim 6],

wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a lottery money-exchanging booth.

10. (Amended) A store communication terminal in accordance with [any of] Claim 4 [to Claim 6],

wherein the store communication terminal is set up in a prize-exchanging booth of a pachinko parlor.